

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY/HLK
APPROVED BY NEA - ALFRED L. ATHERTON, JR.
S/S -O: M. TANNER

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P 210524Z FEB 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 041811 TOSEC 040166

NODIS
FOR SECRETARY FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, SS, AG, MO

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: PROPOSED MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY
TO BOUMEDIENE (S/S NO. 7603652)

1. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST, THERE FOLLOWS FOR YOUR
CONSIDERATION A DRAFT MESSAGE FROM YOU TO BOUMEDIENE.
SINCE I WILL BE CONVEYING YOUR VIEWS ORALLY, A WRITTEN
MESSAGE DOES NOT SEEM NECESSARY. IF YOU WISH TO SEND ONE,
HOWEVER, I SUGGEST THAT IT BE FRAMED LARGELY IN
GENERALITIES, LEAVING TO MY ORAL PRESENTATION ON YOUR BE-
HALF, THE SPECIFIC POINTS WE WANT TO MAKE.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR HAVING AGREED TO RECEIVE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON. I WANTED HIM TO HAVE A FRANK
EXCHANGE DIRECTLY WITH YOU ABOUT THE SAHARA PROBLEM, PAR-
TICULARLY AS IT MAY AFFECT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO
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COUNTRIES. THIS WOULD BE A SOURCE OF CONCERN TO ME, AND I

UNDERSTAND FROM CONVERSATIONS THAT MR. RACHID ZEQHAR HAD WITH DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICIALS THAT YOU WOULD SHARE THIS CONCERN.

IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT THIS TIME BECAUSE SOME OF THE POINTS DESCRIBED BY MR. ZEQHAR AS UNDERLYING YOUR DISQUIET ABOUT THE UNITED STATES SEEM TO BE BASED ON MISPERCEPTIONS OF OUR POSITION. THE SAHARA PROBLEM IS CERTAINLY SERIOUS AND PERHAPS ALL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US CANNOT BE OVERCOME, BUT I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE ELIMINATE MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND NEEDLESS CAUSES OF FRICTION IN THE FRANK SPIRIT THAT HAS ALWAYS CHARACTERIZED OUR EXCHANGES. THIS MR. ATHERTON WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO ON MY BEHALF DURING HIS VISIT.

I WANTED TO ASSURE YOU PERSONALLY, WITH THIS MESSAGE, THAT I HIGHLY VALUE MY OWN RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU AND MUCH APPRECIATE THE UNDERSTANDING YOU HAVE SHOWN TOWARD OUR EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE SAHARA PROBLEM CAN BE CONTAINED AND ULTIMATELY RESOLVED WITHOUT HAVING AFFECTED RELATIONS BETWEEN ALGERIA AND THE UNITED STATES. WE LOOK TO ALGERIA AND MOROCCO BOTH TO EXERCISE THE RESTRAINT THAT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THIS.

WITH WARM REGARDS.

SINCERELY,

HENRY A KISSINGER.

END TEXT.

3. THAT YOU APPROVE THE ABOVE TEXT.

APPROVE----- DISAPPROVE-----

4. DRAFTED: NEA:ARDAY APPROVED:NEA:ALATHERTON

INGERSOLL

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To: SECRETARY
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